GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:248
ANSWERED ON:19.11.2007
SUPPLY OF SEEDS
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the supply of seeds to the farmers of the country is not satisfactory and they have to procure seeds from other sources which are substandard and crop damaging;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) the details of the total demand of the seeds in the country and the quantity of seeds supplied by the Government agencies during the last three years State-wise;

(d) whether the Government has reviewed the production and supply of seeds;

(e) if so, the time when the review was done and the results thereof;

(f) whether any efforts have been made to create awareness among farmers regarding the use and purchase of seeds;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

(a) & (b): 194.31 lakh quintals of seeds of different crops is available in 2007-08 against the requirement of 179.84 lakh quintals as reported by the States in Zonal Input Conferences. Seed production of quality seeds in the country has increased by about 46.13 lakh quintals during 2006-07.

(c) to (e): Government regularly reviews the production and supply of seeds in Zonal Input Conference prior to each sowing season i.e. Kharif (February-March) and Rabi (August-September). The details of total demand of the seeds in the country and the quantity of seed made available for supply by the Government agencies during the last three years State-wise is in Annexure-I.

(f) to (h): Under the Seed Village Programme 645350 farmers have been trained in seed production and technology in the year 2005-06 to 2007-08. Further, assistance is provided to States for the transfer of technology, information dissemination including use of new seeds through Front Line demonstrations, field demonstrations, seed minikits, farmer`s field school, seed production, distribution of seed and farmers training under Centrally Sponsored Scheme/Central Sector Scheme of different Crop Development Programmes.